

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00
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P R 161256Z MAY 78
FM USINT HAVANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1889
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L HAVANA 1267

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, PORG, CU
SUBJECT: HAVANA NON-ALIGNED MEETING BEGINS

1. ON EVE OF OPENING OF NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING BUREAU MEETING, SOME THIRTY-THREE NATIONS HAD INFORMED CUBANS THAT THEY WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN MEETING HERE. SOME TWELVE FOREIGN MINISTERS HAD INDICATED THAT THEY WILL BE COMING - FROM AFGHANISTAN, ANGOLA, ALGERIA, GUYANA, INDIA, IRAQ, JAMAICA, SYRIA, YUGOSLAVIA, GABON, ZAMBIA, AND SRI LANKA.

2. AS OF SUNDAY EVENING, MAY 14, IN ADDITION TO REGULAR DELEGATION MEMBERS, OBSERVERS HAD ARRIVED FROM NORTH KOREA, CYPRUS, EGYPT, PHILIPPINES, GABON, LIBYA, LIBERIA, MALAYSIA, MADAGASCAR, MAURITANIA, PANAMA, PDRY, TUNISIA, UGANDA, AND "EAST TIMOR".

3. CONFERENCE IS BEING HELD IN HAVANA LIBRE HOTEL HERE AND ACCESS TO MEETING AREA AND LOUNGE IS BEING LIMITED STRICTLY TO DELEGATES. BOTH PHYSICAL ARRANGEMENTS AND SENSITIVITY
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OF CUBANS AND OUR NON-ALIGNED COLLEAGUES IN HAVANA SUGGEST THAT EVEN FRAGMENTARY REPORTING ON SESSIONS MAY BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT UNTIL AFTER CLOSE OF MEETING.

4. YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR INFORMED US, MAY 13, THAT A PUERTO RICAN DELEGATION WILL BE ARRIVING, HEADED BY DEPUTY CHIEF (UNNAMED) OF PSP COMMUNIST PARTY. YUGOSLAV ALSO SAID HE

WAS VISITED BY POLISARIO DELEGATION, MAY 13, WHICH WAS SEEKING TO SOLICIT BELGRADE'S BACKING FOR A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING RECENT FRENCH MILITARY ACTIONS. POLISARIO DEL SAID THAT THEY DID NOT WANT TO PUSH PARTICULARLY HARD AGAINST MOROCCANS AND MAURITANIANS. (COMMENT: CUBAN MEDIA ARE CLAIMING THAT ALGERIA WAS BEHIND MOVE TO MAKE HAVANA THE SITE OF CURRENT NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING BUREAU MEETING.)

5. CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER MALMIERCA, MAY 15, OUTLINED FOLLOWING CUBAN OBJECTIVES AT NON-ALIGNED MEETING TO CUBAN PRESS. CUBANS WANT:

- A BUREAU STATEMENT ON AGGRESSIONS TO WHICH NON-ALIGNED NATIONS HAVE BEEN OR ARE STILL VICTIMS. (COMMENT: PRESUMABLY A GENERAL STATEMENT IS INTENDED.)
- A REAFFIRMATION OF SOLIDARITY WITH SOUTHERN AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS.
- CONDEMNATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN AGGRESSION AGAINST NAMIBIAN REFUGEES IN ANGOLA.
- SUPPORT FOR GLOBAL SOLUTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST, "DISCARDING" SEPARATE NEGOTIATION WITH ISRAEL.
- SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIAN STRUGGLE, ESTABLISHMENT OF INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN NATIONAL STATE, AND FOR PLO.
- CONDEMNATION OF "AGGRESSIVE AND EXPANSIONIST" ISRAEL, BOTH WITH REGARD TO ISRAELI ACTIONS IN MIDDLE EAST AND TO ISRAELI

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NUCLEAR TIES WITH SOUTH AFRICA AND LINKS WITH LATIN AMERICAN RIGHTIST REGIMES.

- APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR BELGRADE NON-ALIGNED MINISTERIAL MEETING IN JULY.
- CONSOLIDATION OF UNITY OF NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT.

6. COMMENT: JUDGING FROM EVIDENCE AVAILABLE UP TO NOW, APPARENT CUBAN DESIRE TO TAKE AIR AT SADAT'S PEACE INITIATIVES PLUS ALGERIAN/POLISARIO INTENTION TO PRESS THEIR CASE MAY BE MOST CONTENTIOUS ISSUES IN MEETING. MALMIERCA'S SEEMING CALL FOR A BLANKET "ANTI-AGGRESSION" STATEMENT MAY BE CUBA'S TACTICAL HOPE FOR WARDING OFF ANY CRITICISM OF ITS OWN OVERSEAS ADVENTURING.

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